

CHARLIE CHAPLIN SAYS HE WILL NOT DIVIDE WITH WIFE

Denies Her Charge That He Is
a Bolshevik — Spurns
50-50 Idea.

A Bolshevik may believe in dividing his property with others. Charlie Chaplin is no Bolshevik, he'll tell the world. And just because his wife, Mildred, called him one he rejected her overtures for peace. Her lawyer has given him until late to-day to

change his mind and agree to a conference.

The couple were to have met yesterday in the office of his counsel, Nathan Burkan, and try to smooth things over.

"It really was to have been in the nature of a peace parley," said Mr. Burkan, "and it was my hope a reconciliation would be effected. We were prepared to let the couple thrash out their little quarrel by themselves, and I wouldn't have been surprised if they had packed bag and baggage and gone back to California together. But my client couldn't think of seeing her after what she said to the newspapers."

He declared that Chaplin had decided to make New York his home, and that while he is a British subject he likes this country and its laws and has never thought of leaving. "Mr. Chaplin," he went on, "entertains no hard feelings against his wife. He was perfectly willing to meet her and talk matters over, and

I am convinced was even in a frame of mind for a reconciliation. But now, of course, all this is over, for the present, at least. While he does not take them seriously, he is certainly displeased at her charges regarding his alleged radical views, and can't understand the motives underlying her statements."

"Why, it's a joke," said Charlie of the charges of Mildred. "As to my being a Bolshevik, it isn't true at all. A Bolshevik, you know, believes in dividing his property. Well, I don't intend to divide my property with anybody, and I want the whole world to know it. I'm a capitalist, but I don't want everybody to know that, because they'll be touching me up. If I were a Bolshevik I guess they'd be wanting me to share."

"Fifty per cent. of what I've got? That's absurd. If Mrs. Chaplin can prove infidelity, or cruelty, or neglect, and get a divorce from me, she may be awarded alimony for her support. But that's all she'll get. And I can't see how she'll get much in the way of support, for she's earning \$1,500 a

week making pictures, which ought to support her pretty well."

"MUST COME ACROSS" IS THE ULTIMATUM.

Mrs. Chaplin had nothing to say, but her lawyer, Henry J. Goldsmith, said: "She must come across or shoulder arms."

"I have been in communication with Mr. Chaplin and have given him just twenty-four hours, until Tuesday evening, to agree to a conference at which he will discuss with us some settlement of his financial affairs with his wife. If he does not make some agreement, I will obtain a Federal attachment for his property of all sorts, real and personal, on the ground that he is a British subject and likely to leave this country at any time."

"I will also attach his new film, soon to be released, for which he will receive something between \$500,000 and \$1,000,000."

Mr. Burkan, Charlie's counselor, said: "There's nothing to the statement of attachments. As Mr. Chaplin says, his wife may obtain alimony by winning a divorce suit, but otherwise she has no claim upon him. As told yesterday, Mrs. Mildred Chaplin arrived here a few days ago

and engaged Attorney Goldsmith to get for her what she declares are her rights—namely, half of the custard-chucker's fortune, real and personal, acquired since their marriage. In October, 1918, which she estimates at \$5,000,000. She had made a wreck of her life, she declared. She brought suit for divorce in California, but Charlie beat it out of that State and by easy stages made his way here, and upon Mildred's reaching New York she said she had changed her mind and wouldn't press the suit, but still wanted the money.

About the same time Mrs. Chaplin arrived, Charlie registered at the Ritz as Mr. Spencer, this, it appears, being his middle name. He was there yesterday when he read and was told what his wife said about him.



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